

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 166037
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05
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MMO-01 SIG-01 AID-05 IGA-02 /095 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:JHLEWIS:LFS
APPROVED BY AF/W:TWMSMITH
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R 160020Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 166037

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, MASS, CD

SUBJECT: MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CHAD
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PAGE 02 STATE 166037

REF: NDJAMENA 2241

1. ON JULY 14 VICE PRESIDENT DJIME, IN HIS CALLS ON THE
SECRETARY AND AF ASSISTANT SECRETARY, PRESENTED THE
CHADIAN GOVERNMENT'S OFFICIAL REQUEST FOR MILITARY
ASSISTANCE FROM THE USG.

2. THE OFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF THE REQUEST IS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE. N'DJAMENA JULY 11, 1977. SUBJECT: NEEDS EXPRESSED BY CHAD TO THE UNITED STATES.

OWING TO THE GENERALIZED REBEL OFFENSIVE AT BET, FLAGRANTLY ABETTED BY LIBYA, THE SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL TRANSMITS THE FOLLOWING REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE:

TO ENSURE MOVEMENT OF SUPPLIES BETWEEN N'DJAMENA AND FAYA: SIX (6) LARGE TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT WITH EQUIPMENT, IF POSSIBLE WITH REAR RAMP TO FACILITATE LOADING AND UNLOADING OPERATIONS OF EITHER CARGO (LOADING PALLETS ARE ALSO REQUESTED) OR VEHICLES;

NOTE. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FAYA AIRSTRIP (WHICH

DETERMINE THE TYPE OF AIRCRAFT TO BE USED):

FAYA: ALTITUDE: 235 M. RUNWAY ORIENTATION: 06. 24. DIMENSIONS: 2,300 M X 50 M.

FOR CLOSE AIR SUPPORT FOR GROUND TROOPS: SIX (6) B 26 FIGHTER BOMBERS WITH APPROPRIATE EQUIPMENT, ARMS, AMMUNITION, AND BOMBS;

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FOR HELICOPTER OPERATIONS:

A. TWELVE (12) CH46 OR CH53 CARGO HELICOPTERS WITH EQUIPMENT;

B. THREE (3) UH-E1/GUNSHIP ARMED HELICOPTERS WITH APPROPRIATE EQUIPMENT, ARMS, AND AMMUNITION;

C. TWO (2) UH-E1/COMMAND AND CONTROL HELICOPTERS WITH APPROPRIATE APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING THAT FOR AIR-TO-GROUND LIAISON;

FOR FORMATION OF AN ARMORED COMPANY: ABOUT 20 LIGHT TANKS WITH FULL EQUIPMENT AND APPROPRIATE ARMAMENT AND AMMUNITION;

IN ORDER TO PREPARE 1,500 RESERVISTS OF THE CHADIAN ARMED FORCES WHO HAVE BEEN CALLED UP, CHAD NEEDS TO RECEIVE SUPPLIES FROM A TO Z (CLOTHING, VEHICLES, ARMS, AMMUNITION, COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, ETC.), FOR OR RATHER, MECHANIZED (APC) U.S. ARMY BATTALION.

CHAD HAS TWO PILATUS PC 6 AIRCRAFT WHICH ARE JUDGED THE BEST TYPE OF AIRCRAFT FOR VISUAL RECONNAISSANCE, INCLUDING SURVEILLANCE OF THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY AND THE DETECTION OF CONVOYS FROM LIBYA. SWITZERLAND SOLD US THESE AIRPLANES WITHOUT APPROPRIATE EQUIPMENT AND ARMS. WE HAVE CONTACTED THE MATRA COMPANY AT VELIZY, FRANCE, TO EQUIP THESE TWO AIRPLANES WITH ROCKET LAUNCHERS, MACHINE GUN CAPABILITY, AND BOMBS.

THIS OPERATION WAS SO COSTLY THAT WE WERE FORCED TO FOREGO IT, DESPITE THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF ARMED RECONNAISSANCE IN THE CURRENT SITUATION. COULD THE UNITED STATES EQUIP THESE AIRPLANES WITH ARMAMENT, OR IF NOT, COVER THE COST OF THE OPERATION WHICH WOULD THEN
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BE CARRIED OUT AT MATRA?

IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FUEL FOR BOTH THE GROUND AND AIR FORCES, CHAD NEEDS TO OBTAIN FREE FUEL, OR EQUIVALENT

-

FUNDS IN ORDER TO PAY ITS SUPPLIERS DIRECTLY.

PROVISIONS FOR TROOPS:

50 TONS OF RICE; 10,000 INDIVIDUAL COMBAT RATIONS.
END QUOTE. VANCE

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 /021 R

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DRAFTED BY: AF/W: JHLEWIS: LFS

APPROVED BY: AF/W: TWSMITH

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 166037

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 166037 ACTION NDJAMENA INFO CAIRO
KHARTOUM LIBREVILLE LONDON NIAMEY PARIS TRIPOLI USUN BRUSSELS
BONN RABAT CAIRO TRIPOLI JIDDA AMMAN KINSHASA DIA JULY 16.

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 166037

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, MASS, CD

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REF: NDJAMENA 2241

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END QUOTE. VANCE UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: MOPS, MASS, CD, (DJIME NGAKINAR, MAMARI)
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